

REMARKS

Claims 1-14 were pending in the application. Claims 1-9 are cancelled by this amendment as directed to a non-elected invention. Accordingly, claims 10-14 are currently pending in the application.

Claims 10-14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious considering United States Patent No. 6,623,377 to Evans et al. in view of United States Patent No. 6,319,150 to Werner, et al.

Applicants appreciate the courtesy extended by the Examiner in granting the telephone interview on June 17, 2005 in which the definition of ellipse was discussed as well as the need to clarify the definition of the term "aspect ratio" as used in the claims.

Applicants believe they have amended the claims to overcome the rejection.

In light of the interview in which it was noted that some dictionaries define an ellipse to include any closed plane curve resulting from the intersection of a circular cone and a plane cutting completely through the cone, claim 10 has been amended to include the further limitation that the elliptical central thickened region is a non-circular ellipse.

Also in light of the interview, the specification has been amended to clarify that as used in the specification and in the claims, the term "aspect ratio" means the major axis of the ellipse divided by the minor axis of the ellipse. Accordingly, as the ellipse becomes more circular, the aspect ratio of the ellipse becomes smaller. Applicants urge that none of the references disclose or suggest a golf club having a face plate with a central thickened region wherein the central thickened region has a non-circular elliptical outer edge surrounded by an elliptical transition region tapering from the central thickened region toward a thinner peripheral region in which the

Title: METHOD OF MANUFACTURING A FACE PLATE FOR A GOLF CLUB HEAD

Serial No. 10/803,837

Amendment

central thickened region has an aspect ratio that is greater than the aspect ratio of the elliptical outer edge of the transition region. Accordingly, Applicants believe the claims are allowable as amended.

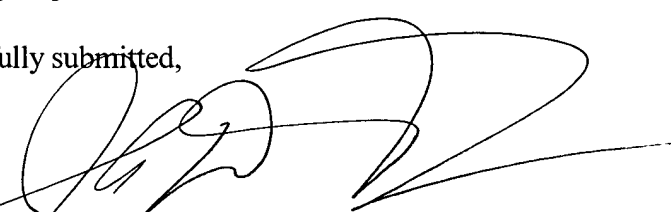
Support for the amendment to the specification is found in the specification including at page 6, line 11 through page 7, line 2.

Conclusion

No new matter is introduced by the amendments herein. Based on the foregoing, applicants believe that all claims under consideration are in a condition for allowance and reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 22 June 2005



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